

## CLAIMS

1. A method in a wireless communications device, the method comprising:

5                   operating in a network other than a home network of the wireless communications device;

                  determining whether to search for the home network of the wireless communications device when not operating in the home network by comparing network record information associated with the network in  
10                   which the mobile wireless communications device is operating to reference information.

2. The method of Claim 1,

15                   identifying the network record information associated with the network in which the wireless communications device is operating using location area information associated with the network in which the wireless communications device is operating,

20                   indicating at the wireless communications device in which network the wireless communications device is operating using the network record information associated with the network in which the wireless communications device is operating.

3. The method of Claim 1,

comparing the network record information associated with the network in which the wireless communications device is operating to the reference information includes comparing a network record number to a reference number.

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4. The method of Claim 3,

comparing the network record number to the reference number includes comparing an operator name string network name record number to the reference number.

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5. The method of Claim 3,

comparing the network record number to the reference number includes comparing an extended operator name string public land mobile network name record number of a smart card module to a reference number stored in memory separate from the smart card.

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6. The method of Claim 3,

comparing the network record number to the reference number includes comparing a network name record number stored on a smart card to a reference number also stored on the smart card.

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7. The method of Claim 1,

comparing the network record information associated with the network in which the mobile wireless communications device is operating

to the reference information includes comparing a network record name to a reference name.

8. The method of Claim 7,

5                comparing the network record name to the reference name  
includes comparing an extended operator name string network name to the  
reference name.

9. The method of Claim 7,

10              comparing the network record name to the reference name  
includes comparing a network name used to indicate which network the  
wireless communications device is operating to the reference name.

10. The method of Claim 7, comparing the network record

15              name to a reference name includes comparing the network record name to  
common personal communications network handset specification operator  
name string information.

11. The method of Claim 1,

20              comparing network record information associated with the  
network in which the mobile wireless communications device is operating  
to reference information includes comparing the network record  
information to common personal communications network handset  
specification operator name string information.

12. The method of Claim 1, indicating that the wireless communications device is operating in a network other than the network in which the wireless communications device is operating based on the network record information.

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13. The method of Claim 1, determining whether to indicate that the wireless communications device is roaming by comparing the network record information associated with the network in which the mobile wireless communications device is operating to the reference information.

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14. A method in a mobile wireless communications device, the method comprising:

operating in a network other than a home network of the wireless communications device;

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determining whether to search for the home network when operating in the network other than the home network based on information used to indicate that the wireless communications device is operating in a network other than the network in which the wireless communications device is operating.

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15. The method of Claim 14,

determining whether to search for the home network when operating in the network other than the home network by comparing the

information used to indicate that the wireless communications device is operating in a network other than the network in which the wireless communications device is operating with reference information.

5                   16. The method of Claim 14, determining whether to indicate that the wireless communications device is roaming based on information used to indicate that the wireless communications device is operating in a network other than the network in which the wireless communications device is operating.

10                   17. The method of Claim 14, determining whether to search for the home network when operating in a network other than the home network includes comparing network name information to reference name information.

15                   18. The method of Claim 14, determining whether to search for the home network when operating in a network other than the home network includes comparing network record number information to reference number information.

20                   19. A method in a mobile wireless communications device, the method comprising:

                    identifying a network in which the wireless communications device is operating;

determining network record information based on the network  
identified;

determining whether to search for a home network when  
roaming based on search information associated with the network record  
information identified.

20. The method of Claim 19, indicating, at the wireless  
communications device, network information when roaming based on the  
network record information with which the search information is  
associated.

21. The method of Claim 19,  
determining network record information includes determining  
operator name string information corresponding to the network in which  
the wireless communications device is operating,

determining whether to search for the home network when  
roaming based on search information associated with the operator name  
string information.

22. The method of Claim 21, determining whether to search for  
the home network when roaming based on search information associated  
with the network name information associated with the operator name  
string information.

23. The method of Claim 19,

determining network record information includes determining  
extended operator name string information corresponding to the network in  
which the wireless communications device is operating,

5                   determining whether to search for the home network when  
roaming based on search information associated with the operator name  
string information.

10                   24. The method of Claim 19, determining whether to provide a  
roaming indicator on the wireless communications device when roaming  
based on the search information associated with the network record  
information identified.